

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this application, claims 4, 5, 11, 12, 15 and 16 being withdrawn. By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 17 are amended. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in the specification, for example, at paragraphs [0025] and [0030] and in Figs. 1 and 2. Claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 17 are also amended for form. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Ferguson at the interview held December 2, 2009, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action objects to claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 17 for informalities. The objections are respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14 and 17 are amended responsive to the objections. Applicant thus requests withdrawal of the objections.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 6-10, 13, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention and as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended responsive to the rejections. Applicant thus requests withdrawal of the rejections.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Druschel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 2,862,728, hereinafter "Druschel"); and rejects claims 2, 8, 9 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Druschel. The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Druschel does not teach, and would not have rendered obvious, every claimed feature of independent claim 1. As discussed during the personal interview, Druschel does not teach "a plurality of cam rollers each having a respective center axis and being attached, with an interval in the circumferential direction, on an inner circumferential surface of the other end of the cylindrical member, each of the plurality of cam rollers being rotatable about the respective center axis of the cam roller, the center axis of each of the plurality of cam rollers extending radially inward from the cylindrical member," as recited in independent claim 1 (emphasis added).

The Office Action asserts that Druschel discloses a plurality of dogs 3 rotatable around a center axis 4 of a shaft (Office Action, page 6). However, Druschel merely teaches a dog 3 pivotally carried between each pair of projections 2 by means of a pin 4 (see col. 1, lines 70-72, of Druschel). As discussed during the personal interview, Druschel does not disclose a dog 3 rotatable about its center axis and the center axis extending radially inward from the alleged cylindrical member. Therefore, Druschel does not teach, and would not have rendered obvious, all of the claimed features of independent claim 1.

Therefore, for at least these reasons, independent claim 1 is patentable over Druschel. Claims 2, 3, 6-10, 13, 14 and 17 depend from independent claim 1, thus claims 2, 3, 6-10, 13, 14 and 17 are also patentable over Druschel for at least their dependency on independent claim 1, as well as for the additional features they recite.

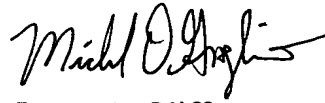
Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

Further, Applicant respectfully requests rejoinder and allowance of withdrawn claims 4, 5, 11, 12, 15 and 16.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MDG/mkg

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: December 9, 2009

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